



THE COMMITTEE ON

WAYS & MEANS

Bills to Modernize and Improve Access to HSAs and Lower Premiums

The Republican vision for health care is centered on **putting the patient in control**. Reforms should **empower individuals and families to make decisions for themselves** based on what best fits their needs, wants, and budget.

A major tool to accomplish this goal is Consumer-Directed Health Plans (CDHPs) with tax-favored health accounts like **Health Savings Accounts (HSAs)**. These plans offer American families and businesses **lower premium plans** and connect consumers to their health care spending. **These plans and accounts are an increasingly popular option for workers.**

Research has consistently found that such **coverage, which empowers individuals and families to be more engaged health care consumers, is capable of significantly reducing health care costs.**

As Republicans continue to work towards comprehensive health care reform, **Congress should enact targeted policies that expand access to HSAs; lower costs and premiums through increasing choices**, and stop harmful Obamacare taxes that are passed onto small businesses and consumers. The three bills that will be considered next week do just that:

H.R. 184 – “Protect Medical Innovation Act of 2018” This bill permanently repeals Obamacare’s job and innovation killing 2.3 percent excise tax on importers and manufacturers of medical devices.

HR 6311 – “Increasing Access to Lower Premium Plans and Expanding Health Savings Accounts Act of 2018”

- **Expands the utility of tax-preferred health accounts** to help individuals plan and save for their health care needs.
- **Changes certain rules for HSAs to allow more people to qualify to contribute to an account and dramatically increases the amount that can be saved tax-free for health care.**
- **Permits funds in Flexible Spending Arrangements (FSA) to be rolled over to the following year.**
- **Provides more choice** by allowing all Americans in the individual market to access lower cost “catastrophic” plans and makes “bronze” and “catastrophic” plans with already sky high deductibles eligible for an HSA.
- **Delays Obamacare’s tax on health insurers** for an additional two years, providing relief from the premium increase caused by the tax.

HR 6199 – “Restoring Access to Medication and Modernizing Health Savings Accounts Act of 2018”

- Modernizes HSA rules in various ways to **help more people access HSAs.**
- Allows HSA-eligible plans to offer a certain amount of first-dollar **coverage flexibility** and allows coverage for certain services from a retail or on-site clinic and direct primary care arrangements.
- Allows over-the-counter medicines, feminine products, and certain qualified physical activities to be **paid for with tax-advantaged HSAs dollars.**
- Permits contributions to an HSA under certain circumstances if a spouse has a health FSA, and **allows rollovers from other tax-advantaged health accounts to be used to fund HSAs.**